Watch on grievance cells of Ministries, etc.

*613. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA SEKHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Public Grievances keeps a watch on the grievance cells of various Ministries, Departments and Organizations of the Central Government to ensure that the complaints received by them are promptly and correctly disposed of;

(b) if so, the procedure adopted for the purpose;

(c) whether any surprise cheeks have been conducted by the Department;

(d) if so, the cases of violations detected during the last three years ending 31st December, 2006, Ministry-wise and Department-wise; and

(e) the action taken against those responsible for violating orders on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances is responsible for the formulation of policy guidelines and monitoring of issues relating to redress of public grievances. Grievances are redressed in a decentralized manner by the respective Departments/Ministries.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

World class infrastructure facilities for cricket

*614. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a serious note of the dismal performance of the Indian cricket team in the Cricket World Cup and controversies over foreign coach;

(b) if so, Government's assessment on the causes for the same; and

(c) whether Government would ensure that a fair amount of earning of

BCCI is spent on world class infrastructure facilities for the game of cricket and on grooming of players with highest-level of fitness?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Government have taken note of the dismal performance of the Indian cricket team in the Cricket World Cup. Government also took up the matter with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), who have informed Government that the team did not perfom to its full potential and has held the Team collectively responsible for its poor performance. The BCCI has deliberated on the matter and also obtained the suggestions of former captains of the Indian Cricket Team. Based on the inputs received, the BCCI say they are taking the necessary steps to improve the preparation of the Indian Cricket Team for participation in major events, including intensive training inputs in different aspects of the game; norms in terms of minimum level of participation in domestic competitions; encouraging young potential players etc. It has further been reported by the BCCI that there is no controversy any more regarding the foreign coach, Mr. Greg Chappell, who has finished his term.

(c) BCCI have reported that through its affiliated units in ensuring that a major share of income generated is utilized for the promotion and development of cricket from the grassroots level. All these state units have been advised to:

(i) Upgrade the infrastructure facilities in stadia;

(ii) Set up playing grounds with basic amenities;

(iii) Support cricket at grassroots level, particularly school cricket;

(iv) Start State cricket academies;

(v) Prepare lively and sporting wickets.

Special package for Orissa

†*615. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether maximum number of people living below poverty line live in Orissa and whether Orissa would be called the poorest State from this point of view;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.